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ENGLISH MECHANIC, Nov. 21.—This is a new annual specially addressed to artisans, though, from the nature of the contents, it will probably have a very extended sale amongst the general public, for it contains information of a practical kind upon many subjects of interest. There is the usual calendar and almanac matter, and quite a number of useful recipes, besides articles selected from various sources.

HALIFAX COURIER, Nov. 22.—It is a useful sixpennyworth for all descriptions of working men. In addition to the usual calendar and general information looked for in almanacs, there is a mass of well-arranged information suited to the mechanic and general workman, including facts, calculating tables, receipts, inventions (with many illustrations), &c., &c.

SALFORD CHRONICLE, Nov. 22.—We have just received a copy of the "Artizan's Year Book and Engineer and Building Trades' Almanac for the year 1880," which is equal, both in quality and variety of matter, to any of its competitors. Besides an excellent almanac, it gives a fund of interesting and useful information to persons of the artisan and mechanical class for whose use it is specially intended.

MANCHESTER CITY NEWS, Dec. 13.—Messrs. Abel Heywood and Son have begun the issue of a yearly manual and almanac, especially addressed to artisans, engineers, and workmen in the building trades. It is a repository or miscellany of facts of all kinds. There are articles on mahogany stains, preserving skins, building stones, the incrustation of boilers, the use of water power in towns, mathematical instruments, machinery for connecting woodwork, and a hundred other subjects.

BRISTOL MERCURY, Nov. 24.—Chiefly intended for mechanics in the engineers' and building trades, for whom it provides a fund of instructive matter.

COLLIERY GUARDIAN, Nov. 21.—It contains eighty pages of useful and interesting matter, introduced by an able article from the pen of Mr. Abel Heywood, jun., entitled "A Slight Sketch of English-printed Almanacs." The

book contains a well-prepared and full calendar, the ministry, eclipses, law terms, stamps, and a vast variety of information both ordinary and extraordinary; indeed, we should think everything which an artisan, engineer, or builder can require. We have little doubt that the venture will be a decided success.

BRIGHTON EXAMINER, Nov. 25.—A valuable contribution to artisans generally, and especially to those who are indicated in the title. The calendar and general useful information usually found in almanacs are preceded by an interesting sketch of the history of English-printed almanacs, and followed by a mass of brief but lucid contributions on subjects relating to science and art in many departments, tables of purchase and sale of property for building clubs, diameters and circumferences, change wheels for screw cutting, &c., construction of frames, lathes, drills, the application and use of water power in towns, photography, lithography, &c., and valuable hints on a hundred other subjects, compressed within the compass of a handy sixpenny volume.

EASTERN MORNING NEWS, Dec. 5.—This almanac contains much information of special value to all concerned in the engineering and building trades, including many calculations, tables, and receipts.

ASHTON REPORTER, Nov. 29.—This is a valuable compendium of information, and may well be called a *multum in parvo*. We shall not attempt to enumerate the many different items of scientific and technical instruction relating to almost all kinds of professions and trades, many of which are illustrated by diagrams, but we may safely assert that all classes of workmen and amateurs would find it useful as a book for frequent reference, at a merely nominal cost.

WIGAN OBSERVER, Nov. 16.—It is full of information of special use to workmen in the various trades mentioned, and cannot fail to have a wide circulation, the almanac supplying a want often complained of.

EDINBURGH DAILY REVIEW, Nov. 26.—This almanac contains a large collection of useful and interesting information suitable for all classes of artisans in the engineering and building trades, besides hints which inventors may probably read. The subjects upon which the editor and others have written are too numerous even to mention. The diagrams by which many of the subjects treated are illustrated are clearly

printed and easily understood by the references in the various articles.

THE BAZAAR, Dec. 1.—A publication that deserves wide circulation among mechanics and workmen generally. The quantity of sound information and useful hints it contains is surprising.

ILLUSTRATED CARPENTER AND BUILDER, Dec. 5.—An excellent year book for the mechanic. The information given is well digested, and many of the short pieces of information on points in mechanical manipulation convey hints of great value to the workman. The longer articles are also characterized by a clearness and simplicity which will commend them to all artisans. The value of engineering and mechanical tables is also great.

PUBLIC OPINION, Nov. 29.—The Artizan's Year Book and Almanac, 1880, is full of information of the most varied and practical kind, and much of the valuable matter it contains is such as is not to be found elsewhere.

OLDHAM CHRONICLE, Nov. 29.—Is likely to have an extensive sale, not only locally, but throughout the country. It is an excellent protest against centralization, and affords substantial evidence of what Manchester can do in the production of a thoroughly useful almanac for those interested in the engineering and building trades. Among the numerous woodcuts in the work is an artistic sketch of the birthplace of Crompton. In addition to a large amount of technical information, the work contains much that is useful to the general reader with reference to building clubs, life insurance, &c.

WESTERN MAIL (Cardiff), Dec. 5.—This book contains the memoranda on every-day subjects usually given in almanacs, and, in addition, a collection of short articles on industrial subjects. There are descriptions of hydraulic machines, printing presses, lathes, &c.; directions for calculating the weight and strength of building materials, and hints which cannot fail to be of use to artisans on a variety of other matters. The "Year Book," indeed, is one that may be taken up with profit by any intelligent person.

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MANCHESTER: FRIDAY, 6 FEBRUARY, 1880.

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AN ABRIDGMENT OF "GREGSON'S FRAGMENTS OF LANCASHIRE."

XIV.

IN 1347, when the whole naval power of England was assembled before Calais, one vessel was from the river Mersey; London furnished 25; Bristol, 24; Hull, 16; and Great Yarmouth 421 ships upon that occasion.

1522. Ralph Sekerston (or Cookerson) was Member of Parliament for Liverpool, and was paid *two shillings a day* for his services. It is said that he could speak in Parliament *without the aid of a Councillor*.

1551. The *Rental* of the town of Liverpool, by the corporation records, was £2 10s. 9d.

1558. Sixteen persons were chosen as a Privy Council, to examine all accounts and orders belonging to the town; twelve persons were chosen to regulate the proceedings in the Common Hall, and twelve others to superintend the repairs of the Highways, all which appointments were made on St. Luke's day. In the same year a letter was sent to Her Majesty, stating that there were then, belonging to the town, the following vessels:—one of one hundred tons, one of fifty tons, and eleven under thirty and down to six tons. From this time we may date the rise of the town of Liverpool. The plague visited the town in this year, the burial place being in the neighbourhood of Sawney Pope-street.

1559. Twenty-four persons were first chosen as a Common Council to attend to all matters and things connected with the town.

1560. The haven was destroyed by a storm.

1561. A new haven was ordered to be built.

1565. A storm destroyed the Church wall, which ran northerly along the Church-passage; beyond which, in the street was a stone shed for the fishermen's horses. The Church at that time had no steeple or gallery, and only two aisles. The number of vessels at this time belonging to the port of Liverpool was 12, navigated by 75 men, and carrying from 6 tons to 40 tons, the total amount being 283.

1567. The rent of the town was mortgaged to raise £20.

1568. Lord Thomas Stanley was elected mayor, and Thomas Moore, deputy-mayor, when it was decreed that no foreigner could be made a freeman under four pounds.

1576. William Dorler was admitted a freeman, on condition that he would take a house in the town and become a resident. He paid the Town Clerk 6d. and the Serjeant-at-Mace 4d. The mayor, upon the Queen's entering the 19th year of her reign, ordered every inhabitant to make a bonfire before the door of his house. The houses then were thinly scattered.

1582. Mr. Antyre was chosen representative of the town, and in the same year, Mr. Mayor's freemen were admitted gratis.

1584. The Twelve ordered that a quart of ale should be sold for one penny.

1590. Visitation of Church in Liverpool, on which, according to the Harleian MSS., No. 2129, the following notes were made:—In one window was the King's Arms, Henry VIII., quarterly France and England, and supporters a Yellow Lion and Red Dragon. In another window, Plantagenet, gules, three lions passant, or with a label of three points argent. In a third window the arms of the Mores, complimenting the lady. In the fourth window, Molyneux and quarterings, viz., Molyneux, Garnet, Villars, Riston, Elliot, Twenge, Holland, Skerton, Haddock, Dutton, Thornton, Minshull, and four others. In the fifth

window, Cross's Crest de Leverpoole, a crane with a cross argent in his beak, the crane's beak and legs gules. In the sixth window, the Earl of Derby, quarterly, first quarter, Stanley, Latham, Warren, then follows Mann, &c., &c. In the seventh window, Henry Norris de Speke. In the eighth window, Tarbocke de Torbock; and on the ninth window, Gerrard of Ince, quartering Brin, Windle, Stanley, Chittleton, Clifton, Pears, Weston, Buckley, &c., &c. 24 quarterings in all.

1615—March 26th. 167 tons of wine having been imported at one time by Daniel Booth, he was at a Council admitted a freeman, and paid customs £13 6s. 8d.

1617—January 23rd. At a Council, John Boyes, a Yorkshireman, was allowed to sell 14 tons of iron in the town upon payment of fifty shillings.

1618—January 12th. Henry de Vere, Earl of Oxford, sworn a free Burgess of Liverpool.

1625. The Corporation was in possession of £170 15s. 2d. in cash, and a Council was called on the 10th January to dispose of this large sum, when it was ordered "that £150 be kept in a Chest with three Keys (no doubt to three different locks), one whereof to be kept by the Mayor, or his deputy, one by the ancient Alderman, and the third by the Bailiff for the time being, to be at the disposal of the Common Council; the remaining £20 15s. 2d. was to remain in the hands of the Bailiff." The Bailiffs were, for upwards of eighty years afterwards, the only treasurers employed.

1634. The sentiments of the inhabitants differed with respect to the Ship Money, and the propriety of building a ship of 400 tons for His Majesty's use, in obedience to his writ, and at a meeting of the Mayor, Aldermen, Bailiffs, and most part of the inhabitants, it was ordered that if the officers of the town were prosecuted for levying a competent sum for the purpose, they should be defended at the cost of the town.

1672. The whole hundred of West Derby furnished 65 barks of 6 tons and upwards. Liverpool at that time having 1400 tons.

1715.—May 20. The Parish in Vestry agreed with a deputation of the Corporation, that the former should give up all claims of the Parish account for the site of the Castle, and to join the Corporation in petitioning the Government to grant the same to build thereon a Church, and make a Market for the Town; with other arrangements then made between the Corporation and the Parish, as stated in the Vestry Book. Under this application they succeeded, and the site of the Castle was granted to the Corporation.

1716. Alderman Moorcroft, who owned the Old Custom House, was chosen the first Treasurer of the Corporation of Liverpool, at a salary of £50. per annum.

1720. Peter Hall was appointed Treasurer on the resignation of Alderman Moorcroft. He was afterwards assisted by Mr. Henry Trafford.

1721. The expenditure of the Corporation was £1,232. 11s. 6½d. Credit is given in the Corporation accounts in this year, per £64. 4s. 4½d. for rents of houses then built in New (afterwards Derby) Square and Market, the surface or ground of which was within one foot or two of the level with what is now the Church-yard. The town at that time contained 10,673 inhabitants.

1729. The Corporation expenditure was £1,380. 14s. 6½d. Credit is given this year for 10s. for liberty to trade, and the money received for land sold in Derby Square (the site of the Castle) was £213. 19s. 3d.; Town's Duty, £768. 9s. 10½d.; Ingates and Outgates, £47; Lensehold Rents and Arrears, £244. 10s. 5½d.

BOTHAM'S WORM CAKES

(Manufactory, Levenshulme,) are universally admitted to be the best and most palatable, and the only preparation to be relied on either for children or adults. 1d. each—7 for 6d.—and 1s. canisters—of all Chemists throughout the world.

1756. War was proclaimed from the Church-yard of St. George's by sound of a trumpet, &c., as was the custom in Market Towns. The population of Liverpool at this time had increased to 24,000 inhabitants.

Soon after this the whole area was cleared, except one house belonging to one Staggs, an attorney, to the front of Preeson's Row (so called from Alderman Preeson, who resided in a house there after the Castle was demolished), and a lofty Pillory and Stocks which then stood near; the area around was called Stocks Market. This in 1763, during the Mayoralty of George Campbell, Esq., was begun to be covered with mean-looking shops like pig cotes, but they were soon removed by the next Mayor, John Tarleton, Esq., and the arcade and two octagon buildings erected, one for a watch-house, and night lock-up, and the other for the Clerk of the Market, and an engine-house behind.

THE HARPURHEY CASE.

WITH great satisfaction we learn that the prisoner Haild has been liberated, and hasten to point out the utter collapse in the chain of evidence adduced in support of the idea that Haild had done the deed of murder.

1st—Because of his sudden departure from the district, the police inferred that he was likely to have committed the murder. But we now learn his departure was delayed already too long, for he arrived at the port of debarkation two days after the vessel in which he ought to have embarked had sailed. Besides, though leaving home at midnight, yet his departure was known five hours previously at two places about a mile from his residence—namely, at the place where Laycock worked, and at the house of the emigration agent. Haild's arrival in Plymouth, and the place where he was lodging, were both known to his friends, and by them communicated to the police in Manchester, thirty-six hours before he was arrested.

2nd—His arrest was not unexpected by him, because he was informed by letter of the serious nature of the charge avouched against him, yet made no effort to hide himself, or escape the observation of those about him, merely remarking by letter that he hoped no one would even suspect that he was capable of committing such a dreadful deed.

3rd—The real or pretended statement of Laycock, as declared by the lodging-house keeper at Plymouth, contains some of the greatest absurdities possible to conceive. For instance—it is there asserted that when Haild was arrested, Laycock, the man not suspected, was the most violently affected of the two men, and declared that Haild came to him on the night of the murder and said, "Now Jack, come along, I have done the deed;" or words to that effect. That upon this confession, Laycock and Haild made haste to get away from Manchester, their native town, or at least the town of their adoption, one man being entirely innocent, the other man confessedly guilty of a foul murder. This idea is so extraordinary that we could not imagine so ridiculous a proposition as that an innocent man should voluntarily and knowingly make a nocturnal departure from the vicinity of a murder in company with the murderer, at a time when the police were at their wits' end to trace the culprit. To put the matter simply—for Tom, a murderer, to go to Jack, an innocent man, confess the crime, and propose an instantaneous departure, and that the two men should then go off comfortably together, the innocent man becoming an accomplice after the fact by not denouncing the guilty man. The idea is preposterous. Human nature shudders from contact with a murderer, especially when the original acquaintanceship is merely that of friends. But in this case the friendship would have been highly criminal if Laycock had known Haild to be a murderer, and had exchanged names with him in order to avoid the detection of Haild.

4th—There has not been any assertion of even an acquaintanceship between Haild and the unfortunate girl Roberts. The utmost that has been stated is that Haild and Roberts might have been known to each other because they resided in the same district.

5th—The pretended likeness of the handwriting is one of the flimsiest proofs ever offered to the public. The letters put side by

side have so little in common that no man out of Bedlam would assert the decoy letter to be a disguised hand of Haild's, for no man disguises his handwriting by writing *better* than he does ordinarily, and yet such is the case between the decoy letter and the genuine letters of Haild. Nor is the handwriting the chief factor in the letters. The spelling and punctuation in the decoy letter is good, in the genuine letters of Haild these matters are very defective, capital letters being used to very many words quite unnecessarily, and small dotted i's used instead of the capital I invariably. The shape and stamp of the envelope of the decoy letter is not such as is likely to be met with in any small stationer's shop in Harpurhey—but this point is not seen by non-professional eyes. The manner in which the decoy-letter envelope is directed is not such as is common with ill-educated people.

6th—The stains upon the shirt are still less reliable, if possible, than the foregoing "proofs." The shirt was said to be wet, dirty, and stained, whilst the coat sleeves were dry. Assuming the man who wore that shirt did the deed, we are to believe that Miss Roberts admitted a man in his shirt sleeves, on a cold winter's night. That the murderer washed the blood-stains partly out of his shirt sleeves, but that they were not dry, three days after the deed, though worn day and night, and covered by a dry coat. We say three days after the deed and the immediate washing of the sleeves, for neither Haild's wife nor Laycock depose to any washing between seven o'clock on the evening of the murder and the housekeeper's washing at Plymouth.

So then the prisoner, never legally charged with the crime for which it is notorious he was arrested, is liberated without one word from either the bench or the bar as to his innocence of the charge. The treatment is very hard. He is two hundred miles away from Plymouth. Will the police declare themselves mistaken, and pay for his return to that port, with damages for detention, &c.? If that be not done then we are bound to confess that the boasted security of Englishmen is a sham. Any man, upon a false oath, may be arrested, and held up as an object of suspicion. In his case he comes so cleanly out of the accusation, we think he ought to have the fullest sympathy and practical assistance, and we hope to hear of the same being rendered to him.

FIGHTING A BEAR AT ECCLES.—AMUSING SCENE.

(BY AN ECCLES CAKE.)

ON Tuesday evening, happening to be in the menagerie now exhibiting in Albert-street, Eccles, I and others were astonished to hear a man—evidently a bricksetter's labourer judging by his dress—undertaking for "the price of a gill" to fight one of the bears—his offer being willingly accepted by the keeper, to the labourer's evident discomfort be it said. He prepared to enter the den, the bear being meanwhile secured by a large chain. The bear, as may be expected began the contest, and prepared to "hug" the rash young man with no very friendly feeling in his bearish-looking face. "Strike out," yelled the highly-excited multitude, and "strike out" he did, dealing the bear several "straight tips" upon its most prominent feature. Soon the two combatants closed, but the keeper no doubt deeming that the two had come to too close quarters, dragged the bear away, the young man yelling lustily the while, his hair literally standing on an end—

"Like quills upon the fretful porcupine," and his cries of "Let me out!" "let me out!" resounding through the building. The terrified boxer managed to escape to the door of egress from the den, but the keeper bent on more fun, allowed the bear to give him another hug, which had the effect of laying the valiant "hero" sprawling upon the floor of the den. Fortune at length favoured him, and gaining the door he gave a yell and departed for—

"Fresh woods and pastures new," in a manner suggestive of the greatest trepidation of spirit.

THE SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENTS.

King Heron sent poachers O— to kill,
And they shot in the darkness Nunn, Phillips, and Gill,
They aimed at O—, but thought it good fun
To bag a whole covey, Gill, Phillips, and Nunn.

PHILLIPS & SONS' DANDELION COFFEE

maintains its superiority over all others. Established 1766. Sold by all Grocers in Manchester. Ask for "Yellow Label." Once tried always used.

POLITICAL PARODIES.—No. I.

AIR—Blue Bonnets.

COME to the muster, both county and borough men,
Each of a good Tory vote the recorder;
Though I've brought you nought yet, save repentance and
sorrow, men,
Stand to your ancient traditions and order.
Britain's broad banner spread,
Flutters above your head,
The banner I've rendered so blood-stained and gory;
Come, and be ready, then,
Borough and county men,
To vote for taxation, gunpowder and glory.
Come from the clubs, that with prestige are crazing,
Come and assist me to ward off the blow;
Come from the pubs, where the Jingo fire's blazing.
Or I fear we shall vanish like last winter's snow.
Murmurs are sounding,
Curses abounding;
So each to his post, like a full-blooded Tory;
Let Afghan and Afric groan,
Ireland with famine moan,
But vote for taxation, gunpowder and glory.

FIDDLE v. ORGAN.

A FIDDLER trying was one day
Some fav'rite passage o'er,
When all at once began to play
An organ at his door.
Up jumped the fiddler in great haste,
With fiddle still in hand;
And soon the "organist" he faced,
Who grinning there did stand.
You rascal, get away from here,
Quoth he in accents bold;
You ugly grinder, don't you hear?
Just do as you are told.
But still the grinder heeded not,
Which maddened him the more;
He swore to give it him right hot,
If he didn't leave his door.
Yet still the man went grinding on,
Anon changing his tune,
From "Grandfather's clock" to one,
To sicken you as soon.
The fiddler's rage no bounds now knew,
He stamped, he shook his fist;
Then at the organ grinder flew,
But in his fury missed.
And here the fiddler came to grief,
For headlong in the street
He fell, and time was not so brief
Ere he regained his feet.
And as to reach his fiddle bent,
He looked full of despair;
His fifty guinea instrument
Was smashed beyond repair.
The man had left him now in peace,
Or misery should say;
For he it was that had to cease
His play—at least that day.
The secret very soon leaked out,
That 'twas a cruel joke;
For cruel 'twas beyond a doubt
To get his fiddle broke.
'Tis said the grinder was paid by
The party at next door;
Through them a fiddle he's to buy,
Ere he can fiddle more.
And now the party say at night
They get a little sleep,
And say it serves the fiddler right,
Who now does nought but weep.

Sam. Gilbody.

BUNKUM AT STRETFORD.

PORKHAMPTON is about to be enlightened and enlivened by the congregation of Jingoos known as a Conservative Club. A number of them got together on Saturday evening at the Town Hall, and were regaled with nearly three hours oratory, and as the presiding genius of Cannon-street has ground it into about three columns, we may take this as the standard measure for the future—a column an hour. The meeting of Saturday evening appears, through the clemency of the Liberal party, to have been tolerably successful. The "platform" was a pretty big one. There was the immaculate Maclure, the rampageous Royle, and a number of smaller fry, who shall be nameless. The chairman appears to have indulged in a most eloquent address of three or four seconds duration. He appears to be like the Welshman's parrot—a beggar to think. The gentleman who laces the skirts of the old lady of Cannon-street, and of whom we spoke a few lines before as her presiding genius, burst forth in a speech of fiery exuberance, judging from the *Manchester Guardian* report, of three minutes duration. He exhausted himself in that remarkably long space of time, and having gone up with rocket-like rapidity, came down with all the quietness of the inevitable stick. The wavering Windsor seconded the resolution, and no doubt told his audience what everybody knew before. Whatever it was he said—whether good, bad, or indifferent—the *Guardian* squelches him with a single line. The Hon. Algernon Egerton is undoubtedly a gentleman who has his head screwed on the right way—his redoubtable ancestor had. He provided a great water-way for the admiration of succeeding generations. He also provided, at the same time, numerous small vessels, better known as "flats." It is probably on account of water and flats that Ben saw in him an embryo Secretary to the Admiralty. At all events, he has done well for the flats, and he is to be admired for the candour of his remarks, and the grand simplicity of his diction. He is not so foolish as to tell us a Conservative Government has not been an expensive Government. He tries to explain away the foreign policy, and as in duty bound, gives an unqualified support to his political chief. He has the good grace to tell us he might, had he been in a certain position, have recalled Sir Bartle Frere. Altogether he made a downright honest speech, and displayed consummate ability in making the best of a bad case. It remained for Mr. Edward Hardcastle to favor his hearers with a specimen of unadulterated Jingoism. He spoke for "us Englishmen." Now, Ned, that is bad grammar, and you ought to have known better. You display a little pardonable ignorance in regard to the connection the Liberal Party has with Home Rule. If this connection means anything at all, it means that Ireland has more justice to expect from the Liberals than from the Conservatives; hence, Irishmen are disposed to support the former, and taboo the latter. There were the usual stock resolutions, the usual ponderous and porcine eloquence, and no doubt the usual satisfaction was felt by the participants. The meeting, no doubt, was a success from a party point of view, but Porkhampton still pursues the even tenor of its way, and pig-killing proceeds as per usual.

HOLLY.

HOLLY is a name which is often, but wrongly, considered a corruption of the word "holy." The holly-tree is called "Christ's thorn" in Germany and Scandinavia, from its putting forth its berries at the supposed period of the year when Christ was born, and from its time-honoured use in decorating Christian churches. This tree, according to a certain legend, was that in which the Almighty revealed Himself to Moses in a flame of fire, by which it was not consumed. Likewise it was supposed to have formed the wood of the cross on which our Lord was crucified; hence it was known as the *Lignum Sanctæ Crucis*. Many have been the traditions and superstitions connected with this beautiful tree. By the Romans it was dedicated to Saturn, whose feasts were held at Christmas time, and sprigs were sent to friends with good wishes for health and happiness. The Persians sprinkled their children with a decoction from the leaves, to endow them with wisdom. According to Pliny, the flowers were an antidote to poison. Our own Druids used to deck private dwellings with the boughs, to offer thus a shelter to sylvan sprites, to whom none was afforded by the leafless oaks. Holly leaves are sometimes of an ivory white, and, when young, are of a beautiful pinkish colour.—*Excelsior*.

BROOK'S DANDELION COFFEE

is the best. May be had from—Burgon & Co.; Woolley's; Auty & Frith; Woodhead & Son; Holgate & Co.; N. Gould & Co.; Beley & Gardner; Lamb & Holmes; Cadman; Leak; Smallman; Woodroffe, and all Grocers.
MAKERS—BROOK & CO., 76, HANOVER STREET, MANCHESTER.

JACKDAW
85, MARKET STREET, 85.

**KENNETH'S
PRESENTS**

FOR
Weddings, Birthdays,
ETC., ETC.



CURRENT AMUSEMENTS.

Theatre Royal.—Pantomime—*Dick Whittington and His Cat*.
Prince's Theatre.—Pantomime—*The Forty Thieves*.
Queen's Theatre.—Pantomime—*Old Mother Goose*.
The Gaiety.—Variety Entertainment—*Performing Elephants*.
The Folly.—Variety Entertainment—*Farini's Friendly Zulus*.
Free Trade Hall.—Diorama—"Route to India."
Wharfe's, Bridge Street.—German Fair.
Belle Vue.—Zoological Gardens.

CAWS OF THE WEEK.

At a meeting lately of the Perth Free Presbytery, a communication was made concerning a practice, which it was said had become very common, of getting drunk on water. This led to an augmented discussion, which ran in the direction of a general tendency to abjure water drinking. It was explained that what was meant was getting drunk on steamers. The Presbytery, however, seemed to see nothing novel in this performance. At last it came out that the reference was to the sale of drink on Sundays on steamers plying between Dundee and Perth. They all joined in condemning this practice.

CLEVER CAPTURE BY A DETECTIVE OFFICER.—On Monday, as Detective Officer Law was going along Market-street a man rushed into his arms. The officer held him fast and conveyed him to the police station. It afterwards appeared that the man was in pursuit of a thief who had just passed the officer. Nevertheless the capture was very cleverly effected.

THOSE who remember the Earl of Beaconsfield's insolent sneer, when in the fulness of power, and with the distinguishing "garret" just encircled upon his leg, about his "*brilliant friends the Irish*," will be rather struck with Lord Sandon's words on Tuesday last at Liverpool: "For heaven's sake, Irishmen, *fellow-countrymen as you all are*." What a change is here! And yet the same speaker, a few moments later, accuses the Liberal party, for their own selfish purposes, of "*tickling the ears of the Irish*."

The *Examiner* and *Times*, on Wednesday, in a leader upon the subject of Robert Hald, makes the following curious remark:—"It is extremely disappointing that the police have been unable to trace the real murderer; but it is satisfactory that they have been able to *exculpate an innocent man*." It is something refreshing to hear, that our police, after seizing a man on suspicion of having committed an offence against the law, do their best to *exculpate him*. We are under the impression that they work the other way; and we think it generally goes hard with any man, who is once subjected to the tender mercies of the police, if he cannot *exculpate himself*.

WE are not advocates for Home Rule, but when Lord Sandon speaks of the "*time-honoured* parliament of the three kingdoms," he should try to tax his memory with the date of its first session as such. We think it takes a period of rather more than a man's lifetime to qualify the term "*time-honoured*" to an institution, and we have no doubt that many thousands of people will be found in the next census, who date their births from a period prior to the time when the Irish parliament was finally dissolved by the most dishonest, dishonourable, and deliberate fraud that ever characterised a Tory Ministry, before the present one took office.

THE fashionable periodical for both sexes—*Beau belles*.

Each hold in hand the winning cards;
'Tis what both parties do say;
But if the *Ram*—say heads the roll,
Ye Tories, what will *ere*—say?

So the other 38-ton gun of H.M.S. Thunderer has at length fallen a victim to the idiotic harlequinade of costly experiment. In order to demonstrate that which everybody (except Tory Jacks in office) already knew, that too much loading will burst a gun, the determination to burst it has been successfully carried out, and the unfortunate gun has been literally blown to pieces, and above £5,000 of the people's money blown away with it. Another Tory victory!

It's cost five thousand, but the victory's won;
Shout, Jingo, shout! we've burst the Thunderer's gun.
Poor gun.—With 190 lbs. of powder and 1,300 lbs. of shell inside, and its muzzle buried in the sand, what could it do but burst? Surely it was not expected to blow the entire terrestrial globe away from its muzzle.

PLAGIARISM.—The following testimonial has been sent to Messrs. Hardcastle and Birley:—"Gentlemen, I have much pleasure in testifying that I have been kept awake several times, notwithstanding a disposition to drowsiness, by your late speeches; but I cannot pretend to say whether the benefit was due to the loudness of your voices, operating on the auditory nerve, or to the pungency of your arguments, stimulating the mind to increased activity.

"Believe me,

ZENO met with an accident at the Westminster Aquarium on Saturday last, and was picked up insensible. We think that gentlemen of morbid tastes yelet the Brit. pub. is getting *Far-in-(h)is* dotage, or he would have discountenanced these aerial flights long ago, especially as they are all one and the same thing over again.

THE prize competitions in our weekly journals sometimes are productive of good things; witness the following epigram:—

"Love always is blind, and we all love the Queen,
And that's why Her Majesty *never is seen*."

LORD B. says that the Government had "excellent reasons" for the rejection of Dr. Farr. He ought to have said that the appointment of Sir Brydges Henniker was in accordance with the *Manners* and Customs of Tory rule. We remember a copy at school which said:—"A man's *Manners* constitute his fortune," but we never felt the significance of the aphorism until now.

It was Lord John Manners who wrote:—

"Let laws and learning, arts and commerce die,
But leave us still our old nobility."

But we can't see that marrying the author's wife's sister constitutes a patent of nobility sufficiently strong to sacrifice laws, learning, arts, and commerce in favour of —

At the championship skating contest at Hendon last week, there were so many first-rate performers, that it may be truly said that the ice was full of *cracks*. Note.—The *cracks* were skaters and not *fissure-men*.—P. D.

SMOKE INDIAN LUNKAH CHERROOTS, 2d. and 3d. each.

The Trade Supplied. WITHECOMB, 32, VICTORIA STREET, and 65, MARKET STREET.

Is law justice, or is justice law? We are really so bothered between the terms that it will perhaps account for our obtuseness in not understanding why a farm labourer should be sentenced to twenty-five years' penal servitude for cutting the throat of an *unfaithful* wife, and a gentleman of "independent means" should be sentenced to eight years' of the same punishment for shooting a *faithful* wife. And yet these two sentences were passed on the *same day* at two different places only last week. And we have above *eleven hundred* men engaged from eight to nine months in the year in perfecting our laws!

Who says we do not live in a land of speculation, or that John Bull has not an eye to the cash. The Duke of Somerset was, on a recent occasion, charged two shillings to enter his own ground by a self-appointed committee. And we are asked to believe that people who will thus beard the lion in his den for the sake of a florin will wink at, and be satisfied with, reckless national expenditure.

We admire the idea of the Lewis balloons as a splendid advertisement, but the tale of one of the said balloons having been picked up in Italy, although "extant, and written in choice Latin," is too large a pill for even a *Jackdaw's* swallow.

ANOTHER of those extraordinary statements which so distinguish Tory orators, is that of a highly-gifted speaker, who contends that the Earl of Beaconsfield is entitled to the gratitude of Englishmen for bravely going to the Berlin Congress in the *depth of winter*. Conservatives may put great faith in the infallibility of their leaders, but we think that even the most besotted Jingo will scarcely credit that the depth of winter ever occurred in *July*!

ALTHOUGH the Senior Wranglership did not come to Manchester, we were within what is called in sporting parlance, "a short head," Mr. Thompson, of Trinity, *nee* Owens College, being second. In the depths of Ireland's distress, she has at least scored one honour for which the owners of Coronets and Gartered Knees have striven in vain. *Vivat Hibernia*

Lord Sandon—August, 1843.—"Mr. D'Israeli's patriotism consists in heaping the grossest terms of contumely and opprobrium on those whom he affects to support."

Lord Sandon—January, 1879.—"Our party, as you know, is one compact party, having one noble, self-sacrificing leader of wonderful patriotism."

THERE were two Eckington Colliers who tried to become amateur road-trustees, and tried to levy a toll upon the passers by. The Magistrates thought they were not quite fitted for their self-appointed posts, and *told* them to go to prison for a month.

"Our special" writes us that he has suffered severely from colds, and attributes the cause to having encountered so many "draughts" whilst engaged in his arduous duties on our behalf, giving us also a gentle hint as to pecuniary matters. We fully believe in the variety of *'draughts'* he has imbibed—we mean encountered; but we don't mean to furnish him with another *draft*, we think it would make him worse.

Mr. Hardcastle, M.P., lately said at Middleton that "if Russia had been allowed to have *stretched* her empire from the Baltic to the Mediterranean, it would have been a *standing* menace to the liberties of Europe." Why does not Mr. Hardcastle go the whole hog on Irish bogs? Why those half measures?

At a Conservative meeting at New Cross Ward, on Thursday, one of the orators, as reported in the *Courier* of Friday, concluded in these words:—"It was a very singular fact that the Liberal party went out of office leaving the country in a state of depression, which had gone on increasing ever since they resigned the reigns (?) of office." This wonderful admission was received with "applause." The word

"reigns," of course, is intended to comply a perpetual dictatorship for Lord Beaconsfield. But how on earth did the speaker pronounce the word so as to convey that idea to the reporter?

"Royle, you are a humbug?" said Maclure to the distinguished physician. "Everything about me is real," said Royle, "and is what it pretends to be." "Except your choker, unfortunately," replied Maclure.

We hope our readers will not lose sight of the fact that *Sunday* is *Hospital Sunday*.

"THE MAN IN THE MOON"

AT LIVERPOOL.

THE contest at Liverpool has produced the greatest exposure in political life which has ever occurred. Lord Sandon and Mr. Whitley first tried to cajole the Home Rule party in Liverpool, but when the Orange party showed their teeth the poor nobleman and his friends were obliged to make a selection of parties, and they were *helped* to a decision by Dr. Commins and the Home Rulers throwing them overboard, and declaring for the Liberal candidate, Lord Ramsey. Then the Tory vials of wrath were poured out *ad libitum*. The Liberals were styled traitors who sold themselves and the constitution for the Home Rule vote, and much more to that effect. In an evil hour for them, however, Mr. A. M. Sullivan, and Mr. Finnigan, M.P., arrived. The first gentleman has answered this rhodomontade in a style which ought for ever to close the mouths of Tory evangelists—they can no longer claim to be "on the side of the angels," unless they begin by allowing that those angels are the Liberal Irishmen and their friends, whom the Tories have usually described as the emissaries of the wicked one. Mr. Sullivan said—

"Now, I shall state here to-night five charges, and if Mr. Whitley desires it, I publicly offer to remain in Liverpool on purpose to prove my statements, either at a public meeting or in the public press; and I tell Mr. Whitley I am ready to give names, dates, and occurrences in connection with those charges. If Home Rule be a crime, if even an inquiry into Home Rule is considered to be a crime, I am going to let you know now who has led us into that crime. It is very well known that the Home Rule movement is a compromise between us, the Irish Nationalists and certain Conservative politicians. In 1870, from the Conservative camp came to us Nationalists the invitation to enter upon this Home Rule movement.

"I make that charge No. 1 for Mr. Whitley and his Conservative friends. I make charge No. 2—that influential members, agents, and representatives of the Conservative party—some of them, to my knowledge, in constant communication with the party managers in London—so pressed upon us in Ireland this duty—the duty of entering upon the Home Rule movement, that for us to have held back from their invitation would have been set down to sectarian mistrust, animosity, and bigotry. Charge No. 3 is this: That from the Conservative party was supplied the money that fought some of the earliest Home Rule election contests in Ireland. Another section of this Charge No. 3 is—that the only open and avowed Fenian candidature in Ireland, namely, the election of Mr. O'Donovan Rossa for Tipperary, was fought by money supplied by the Conservative party. Fourthly, I state this, that the members of the Conservative party who were most prominent and active in identifying themselves with us, Home Rulers and Nationalists, were before our eyes singled out for honours and appointments by the men who now compose her Majesty's Government. And, lastly, I state and charge this fact—that we were then and there led to believe—and I, for one, still do believe—that certain of the Conservative statesmen then meditated what they call 'dishing the Whigs,' first as to the Irish vote, by proposing for Ireland a Royal residence and a domestic legislature. These are serious charges to make; but I make them with a full sense of my responsibility. And why? Because I notice in the language of Lord Sandon, and in the language of the Conservative leaders of this town a nefarious attempt to put the ban of political infamy upon Home Rule and Home Rulers, whereas I note on the part of the Liberal candidate a manful avowal that our cause must be treated as one of argument, upon which we are entitled to be heard."

Comment is unnecessary; the exposure is complete.

BROOK'S DANDELION COFFEE

is the best. May be had from Burgen & Co.; Woolley's; Auty & Firth; Woodhead & Son; Holgate & Co.; N. Gould & Co.; Beeley & Gardner; Lamb & Holmes; Cadman; Leak; Smallman; Woodroffe; and all Grocers. MAKERS—BROOK & CO. 78, HANOVER STREET, MANCHESTER.

THE SALFORD CORPORATION AND THE TELEPHONE.

It has often been remarked, in following the history of civilization, that there is a singular fitness, as to time, between the invention of particular arts and the contemporaneous requirements of society. Just when men feel a new want, or are entering on a fresh career, or making experiment of some new institution, an opportune inventor starts up with some device suitable to the occasion. When the world was about to go to sea, it discovered the mariner's compass; when it was about to go to sea, in a figurative sense, it found out the art of printing. When a paroxysm of the chronic homicidal mania seized on Europe, gunpowder was invented. Penny postage stamps coincide with Christmas cards; and the sewing machine synchronises with innumerable flounces and interminable trains. Ireland and potatoes became known at the same time. Steam was not invented till the time when man wanted to go faster than there was any need of before, and the telephone was unknown till about the period when Government took reporters and special correspondents under its paternal care. When some event takes place which the powers that be do not find it convenient to notify at the place where it occurred, nor expedient to suppress altogether, they convey the information to some distant locality by means of the telephone. In consequence of this practice the police news is attended with extraordinary eccentricities. The bullet is lodged here; the report is heard there; the lightning flashes in the south; the thunder rolls in the north. A short time since a tremendous explosion took place in the Salford Corporation, and no one in Salford or Manchester was aware of it. When we say no one was aware of it, of course we except the members of the two corporations. Whenever we refer to human stupidity or ignorance as universal we always except the corporations of Manchester and Salford. A great revolution, we repeat, a dethronement, a change of dynasty was accomplished, and no one was the wiser for it except the actors in the scene. The corporation was the wiser, but no one else. History is philosophy teaching by examples. The two corporations have a great many examples put before them in that historico-philosophic method, and they keep all the teaching to themselves. That is what makes them wiser than other people. They know a great many things which other people do not know. They keep all their useful knowledge to themselves, and they ease their consciences by sending telephonic messages to distant places where the knowledge cannot be useful. On the occasion we refer to they sent the information to Newcastle. Now we have a recommendation, or a choice of recommendations, which we offer to the corporation of Salford, and also to the corporation of Manchester, for which we expect their everlasting gratitude. Whenever anything happens which they do not wish should be known, instead of transmitting it by the telephone let them consign it to the phonograph. The phonograph is an instrument in which the proceedings of a committee or of any meeting can be bottled up for a hundred years if necessary. If a censure has to be pronounced, or an officer dismissed, or a job exposed, let the whole matter be fairly gone into, discussed, and decided on, and, instead of having the speeches, and the conclusion come to, reported and published, either at home or at a distance, let them be phonographed and deposited in the archives of the city. They might be laid by in the wine cellar and then the proceedings and the vintage of any Manchester year might be decanted together. In this way awkward comments would be avoided, nobody's feelings would be hurt, and the independent stream of corporation life would flow on untroubled, or, if this plan is open to any objection, we do not see why announcements should not be publicly made of any forthcoming measures which the corporation did not wish to be generally known, with the plain intimation that they were to be kept secret. Just as we now read in almanacks of eclipses of the sun invisible at Greenwich, we might have notices in our daily papers such as these:—"On Jan. 1, a row in the Nuisance Committee inaudible at Salford," or, "On Nov. 21, a job in the Watch Committee inaudible at Manchester." The public would see that it was absurd to question the discretion of the heavenly bodies about their own movements. On some occasions, when it was thought desirable to make a deep impression, a black flag might be run up at the moment of the decision, just as is done now in the case of executions performed within the gaol. We make these suggestions because the present method does not work perfectly. When the news of the late event at Salford was sent to

Newcastle, it got into the *Newcastle Chronicle*. From thence it was echoed back to the *Manchester Courier* of January 19th, when we were informed that the chief constable of Salford had been dismissed by the corporation for taking bribes from policemen to gain them promotion, and from publicans for unknown and unimaginable purposes. It was very provoking that this disreputable piece of information, after being banished to a distant land, should thus turn up again to disfigure that decent exterior of things which corporations are so anxious to maintain. But such is always the consequence of not doing any work thoroughly. If the phonograph had been used instead of the telephone all would have remained quiet. The mischief, however, must be undone. On January 26th, the *Courier* recanted its words or its quotation, and just as the report had flown from Newcastle to Manchester, so now the denial or recantation was echoed from Manchester to Newcastle. Finally, on January 30th, the *Courier* quotes an announcement from the *Chronicle* withdrawing its former statement, and enjoining on the public to suspend its judgment until the whole facts of the case are published. This is the stage in the business which has been now arrived at. The public judgment of Salford and Manchester is placed in a most dangerous and critical attitude until the corporation of Salford comes to its rescue. There is not an inhabitant of the two boroughs who must not feel an uncomfortable vacancy under his feet, and a disagreeable sensation about his throat, when he makes an attempt to realise his condition, or the condition of his judgment as one of the public. The judgment of the public is suspended. It stands upon nothing. There is no ground or support under it, and the support which it has from above is much more dangerous than the want of support which it suffers from below. It is not at liberty to let itself drop down or float away on some blast of opinion. It is suspended, it is tied, and the corporation of Salford holds the end of the string. Now, how long will the corporation leave the public judgment in this asphyxiating condition? Let it remember that public judgment is mortal, and let it hasten its "publication of the whole facts of the case." In the meantime we will suggest one or two considerations for the encouragement of the public judgment, just as one might pile one old box on the top of another so as to reach the feet of a man hanging, to save him from strangulation. In the next place, it is exceedingly improbable that an exalted member of the police force could possibly do wrong. The public never hear of anything of the kind. If they are in any doubt, let them remember how very near they were to hearing nothing about this particular case. Secondly, if anything of the kind did take place it is quite certain that the corporation would immediately make it publicly known. Corporations are always in a hurry to make known the transgressions of the police, and the higher the station of the offender the greater is their haste. Thirdly, it is inconceivable that a body of men who are not in the least degree desirous of putting themselves forward, and who, if they were, possess such transcendent merits, should dream of buying promotion with money. Think of the ability, the acuteness, the accuracy, the infallibility displayed by the police of this neighbourhood during many years, and never more than at this moment, and consider whether it is possible that the men in question should own that they were worthless, idle, and stupid, and could obtain promotion by bribery? Fourthly, it is likely that a superior officer would have bribes offered to him by publicans when we all know the most amicable terms which the inferior members of the police force maintain with that respected and respectable portion of the community? Those considerations, we trust, will be sufficient for the present. We hope, however, that the corporation will not delay in affording its solution, lest, as has happened before now in a similar conviction, the wrong person should get hanged.

THE NEW BOAT-HOUSE AT HOUGH LANE.

WE have been rather amused at the appearance of a letter in the *Salford Weekly Chronicle*, from an inhabitant of Hough Lane, who arrogates to himself the signature of "Amicus Humani Generis." He evidently does not care much about the logical bearing of his subject, for he commences with the dictum that an open place in Hough Lane, through which he is accustomed to view the "waving foliage," as he poetically expresses himself, must always remain an

ARONSBERG'S "PERFECTION" SPECTACLES ONLY TO BE HAD AT 12, VICTORIA STREET, AND 103, MARKET STREET, MANCHESTER.

open space, for he states that the said space is being "surreptitiously stolen" from himself and others (who have no part or parcel of ownership in it), and that the theft is being "connived at by an unpoetical landlord" (who really is the owner of it). Is "A. H. G." willing to pay the rent of the said open space for the poetic pleasure of looking at the "waving foliage," which he says is as welcome to his eye "as water in the desert to the Arab?" The building of a boat-house on the banks of the Irwell is certainly calculated to bring discredit on the neighbourhood of Hough-lane, if we must take "A. H. G.'s" assertions as established facts; for he takes exception not only to the building as a structure, but to the "elegant language" of the members of the Rowing Club, whose property the building is, and which consists of gentlemen who are as much above such an imputation as "A. H. G." himself, if not more so, a great portion of whom are respectable tradesmen, and who number upon their roll of patrons such names as Colonel Clowes, M.P., E. Hardcastle, Esq., M.P., W. T. Charley, Esq., M.P., Colonel O. O. Walker, M.P., Alderman Dewhurst, Councillors Waterhouse, D. Hall, Johnson, Horrocks, Sykes, Middlehurst, Bowker, Whittaker (who is a resident in Hough-lane), and Makinson, Dr. Pinder, B. Armitage, Esq., A. Arnold, Esq., and many others, who, we think, are equally good judges of propriety as "A. H. G." As to its interception of the view of the good burgoesses of Hough-lane, the fact is that the foundation of the boat-house being six feet below the level of the street in question, and the building to be erected being only ten feet high in its greatest altitude, it follows that the highest pinnacle will not be more than four feet above the pavement in Hough-lane, and as its distance from the "open space" is also calculated to lessen even that altitude by perspective, he must be a small person, indeed, whose view, or whose modicum of "fresh air," would be either lessened or even effected thereby. His concluding statement of the embankment, which, *he says*, was raised in 1866, being cut away, is a half-fact calculated to mislead a reader who may be unacquainted with the truth. The embankment (which, we believe, is considerably older than the period stated), has simply had some earth taken from one side for a length of something just over fifty feet, for the purpose of building a strong wall against it, which could not have been effectually done without some levelling to a face for building to, and the effect of this will be to strengthen, not weaken, the embankment; for even "Amicus Humani Generis" must acknowledge that an embankment, backed by a substantial wall and well-built edifice, must be stronger and more resisting than an embankment supported by nothing but an "open space" and "waving foliage."

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

ONE of the most remarkable of the many extraordinary meetings now taking place in England was held in the Free Trade Hall, on Tuesday last. The Women's Suffrage League "demonstrated," and with much felicity of language, and great power of argument proved that there is no solid reason why women, as such, should be debarred from the parliamentary franchise. As a matter of history, it is undeniable the march of civilisation may be traced in the story of the social condition of woman. Where she has been most honoured, there has the greatest national prosperity prevailed; for ignorance, domestic tyranny, and low condition of public life, have always been found conjoined. Viewed more closely, it is a moot question whether men do not inflict a serious injury upon their own wage-earning capacity by the illogical way in which they treat women in the matter of wages. A shop woman, or bookkeeper, or cash clerk, is never paid the same rate of wages as is willingly paid for the same services to men; and yet this disparity of payment causes an incidence against the earnings of men of which they are little aware at present.

One or two points against the proposal to enfranchise women we do not observe mentioned in the reported speeches by the ladies. They are these—Do the women of England, as a whole, give their voice, in times of excitement, for peace or war? Though the statement may appear strange, some of the strongest supporters of Women's Rights questions stop short at the point of the parliamentary franchise. They declare that until women are enrolled in regiments, and made to endure the horrors of war in the field, this class of Women's Rights

advocates will not advance to the consummation of what appears as a logical conclusion to their own arguments. We state this position of the question without doing more than averring that we wish the charge were disproved. At the same time, we must declare that this extraordinary charge appears to us to rest upon insufficient evidence. It is not consonant with the generally and properly accepted idea that woman is much more the fountain of love than of war. Still it must be observed that the charge deals with woman in a state of passion, and declares that at such time she is unanchored to personal fear, because she does not go to war. Altogether, we incline to the belief that were all womankind enfranchised to-morrow she would not show a greater fondness for war than man has done from the time the servants of Laban and Abraham strove who should have the best pasture land. On the other hand, that women would in some measure free themselves from the shocking thralldom in which they are sometimes held is the most reasonable effect to be expected from their enfranchisement. We have just seen that a man was allowed to strike his wife on the head with a cleaver, with a penalty of fourteen days' imprisonment; whilst at the same place, before the same J.P., two men, found with two dead hares in nets, were sentenced to a month's imprisonment. This decision is only a typical one of many throughout the country every month, and they clearly prove that educated men will resent the theft of game—to which they have not yet established a logical claim, as against that of the tenants on an estate—twice as severely as they punish an outrage on humanity, such as this one of the cleaver.

It is unnecessary to detail the story of the incidents of the meeting; suffice it that the meeting went off uncommonly well, the speaking being of the very best kind, as indeed we have a right to expect from Miss Becker, Mrs. Butler, Mrs. Scatcherd, and the lady who presided—Mrs. D. McLaren.

DONE!

PART II.—(CONCLUDED.)

ON our last we promised to relate the sequel of the consequences which attended the young clerk who had—as recorded last week—the temerity to place a parcel containing the office refuse upon the pathway in front of the warehouse. In fear and trembling young Moses Wright (for such was the Christian and surname of the clerk in question) awaited the advent of his employer's "confidential." At length he arrived, and, in obedience to his commands, Moses was dragged into the "confidential's" private *sanctum* by little Jemmy Sneak, who guards the entrance of the warehouse, and enjoys the honourable post of "coal fetcher" for the entire establishment. Said Moses: "If you please, sir, do you want me?" [The hypocrite! He knew full well that he was "wanted," and the nature and extent of the crime he had so recently been guilty of.]

Replied the "confidential": "I rather think I do want you, my fine young man. Wasn't it you who put that parcel of dirt in front of the warehouse? Answer me truly, upon your peril." Moses (hesitatingly, and evidently on the verge of tears, and rubbing the end of a greasy pair of cuffs across his proboscis): "Yes, sir, it was; but I didn't mean no harm!—indeed, I didn't, sir." [Falls upon his knees, and shrieks forth to a most appreciative audience—for, of course, we had all been requested to witness the punishment of the now unhappy Moses.] "Oh, sir—

"The quality of mercy is not strained;
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven;
It is twice blessed:
It blesseth him that gives and him that takes."

Therefore, sir, show me mercy, as you hope for mercy in the time to come!"

"Confidential," affected by the humble demeanour of the clerk, wipes a falling dewdrop from the left corner of his right eye, and in a broken voice, said: "Get thee gone, young man, to thy usual occupation, and let me not detect thee playing foolish tricks upon folks more wise than thyself."

[*Exeunt* boy, with the whites of his eyes turned heavenwards in a spirit of thankfulness for the unexpected clemency just shown him, and with a firm resolution to avoid doing anything in the future which should disgrace him in the eyes of our worthy and well-respected "confidential."]

RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT. HOPWOOD & CO.'S N. & S. Hair Cream, recommended by Eminent Physicians, for its "surprising and unfailing success," may be had of all Chemists & Perfumers, at 1/6, 2/-, 2/6, 3/6, 5/-, & 11/-. H. & CO.'s Sedative Cold Cream, 6d., 1/-, & 2/6.

PORTRAITS—GEOFFREY CHAUCER.

BORN 1328. DIED 1400.

[BY W. HEPWORTH DIXON.]

QUEEN. Instead of being the Queen's maiden, Philippa had become the Queen's gentle-woman, and received her wages from her Majesty in her name and quality as the poet's wife. Two sons were born to them—first, Thomas, and second, Louis. Thomas lived to become a famous man; knight, councillor, speaker, and much more. Louis, the child for whom the poet wrote his treatise on the Astrolabe, died young.

While Queen Philippa lived, the poet's wife had remained with her at Windsor and Westminster. On her demise, the poet and his wife had left Windsor for the Savoy, where they were called into a new service: Chaucer into that of Lancaster; his wife into that of the duke's second consort, Dona Constanza of Castile.

By this time Catherine de Roet had become a mother; mother of that John de Beaufort who was destined to become the father of our permanent line of English kings. Lancaster owned his child, and treated him like a prince. The fact of bastardy was held to be of slight account; for almost every prince in Christendom brought up his children, whether born in wedlock or out of wedlock, under a common roof. Bolingbroke, the son of Duchess Elinor, never dreamt of treating John of Beaufort, son of Catherine de Roet, otherwise than as his brother. They were both their father's sons. Reared together, the only visible line dividing them was the fact that Henry stood by law, and John did not stand by law—as yet—in order of succession to the Crown.

John de Beaufort was the nephew of Chaucer's wife, first cousin of Chaucer's sons.

Philippa was now removed from the poet's side. Louis, their younger son, was dead. Thomas had become a busy man. Widowed and alone, Chaucer came back to Windsor, where he found his feet on old and pleasant ground—the wards and gardens in which the King's valet had courted the Queen's maiden, and the two young people, in the spring-time of their life, had plighted to each other an abiding troth.

Winchester Tower, a massive and irregular building, rising from the northern rampart, close beside the deanery and cloister, had been erected by William of Wykeham, on the site of Henry III.'s unlucky pile. Three storeys high, standing athwart the wall, and capped with vane and turret, this edifice enters into every picture of the castle, and is one of its most catching points. The rooms are good, the leads delightful—looking over slope and river, wood and pasture land, as far as the eye can pierce.

Here, between the great chapel and the new King's house in the upper ward, Wykeham had lodged; and here the successors of Wykeham, down to Wyatville, have also lodged. Chaucer, one of these successors, would have to lodge during his Windsor residence as master of the King's works, in Winchester Tower.

Thirty years before, when Wykeham had been toiling at his edifice, Chaucer, the King's valet, was living in the King's house; whence he could see the pinnacles rise, the traceries flow and flower, the windows spring and arch; very much as Dante, from his seat in the cathedral square, had seen the wondrous wall and belfry rise from the earth in Florence, under the inspiring touch of Giotto. One imagines that, like Dante and Giotto, the English poet and the English architect were friends.

When St. George's Chapel had been roofed, the written treasures of the King's house—not unknown, one sees, to the King's laureate—had been removed into the sacred edifice. One of these written treasures was the Roman de la Rose, which Chaucer's genius had kindled and fused into English verse. Into that tale, his Roman of the Rose, he has thrown a brief allusion to his master, King Edward, and to that master's birthplace, Windsor:—

"By her danced a bachelor;
I cannot tell you what he hight,
But fair he was and of good height,
All had he be (I say no more)
The Lord's son of Windesore."

(To be Continued.)

BREAKING LOVE'S CHAIN.

IT is hard, dear, parting thus from thee;
Link after link we break regretfully—
Link after link we break of love's dear chain,
Never to join those links on earth again.

Tenderly one I break; another thou—
Here 'tis a promise vain; and there, a vow—
Link after link we break of love's dear chain
And know they never can be joined again.

Remember not the message of my eyes—
Think not of tears shed—nor of weary sighs;
Remember but the words I said to thee—
Firmly yet tenderly—"It cannot be."

True love is sweet, but sweeter duty done;
Faith and hope last when youth and grace are gone.
Link after link we sever tenderly,
Owning no dearer chain will ever be.

Link after link—averted eyes; a word
Sweet, yet its sweetness scarcely breathed, or heard.
Alas! how hard to part!—how great the pain
Of hearts that break in breaking true love's chain.

Whalley Range.

K. TAYLOR.

SKETCHES BY JINGO.

XXVIII.—THE FOOTPAD OUTWITTED.

IT wur abeawt fifty year sin, when aw're nobbut a young chap," (began old Barker, as we sat one evening around his humble fireside, listening to the following account of how he escaped from what had promised to become, but for his presence of mind, a rather awkward dilemma), "that aw're gooin' to a place a few moiles fro' Eccles, along what is neaw coed Eccles New Road. Thur wur moore trees un less heawses then thur are neaw, yo may be sure; un it wurn't uncommon for a chap to be met uppo th' road un robbed ov o he had on him. Well, as aw wur tellin' yo, aw wur on th' New Road, proceedin' i'th' direction o' whoam, wi a goodish bit o' brass i' my pocket—bein' as aw wur th' scratchetary (secretary) o' th' buryin' club which wur in existance at that toime—when, lordjus days alive! who should deart eawt ov a hedge but a big, brawny-lookin' chap, wi a stick in his hont us would ha' gleddened th' soul ov a feightin' Irishman. 'Good neet,' says th' chap to me. I'stead o' replyin', 'Thank yo koinldy, sur,' aw bent in his reet yer (ear) un whispered, 'Is it money yore afther?' 'It is,' he replied; 'un aw meen fort' have it, too.' 'Hush—sh!' aw said, pretendin' ut aw're greightly afear'd o' bein' yeard; 'aw've bin sent for't see if aw could meet any o' yo chaps on th' road fro'—,' naming a well-known resort for thieves, vagrants, and vagabonds o' that toime—Manchester, us thur's a heawse we know on wheere thur's plenty o' tin to be had, so ut yo'n th' very chap I want for't see.' Aw then begun to tell him o' th' particulars o' th' suppositious robbery, th' fellow meanwhille listenin' to th' loies aw're tellin' him wi' th' greighest intherest. Well, to mak a lung story short, us th' story books say, we parted near th' Lamb Inn, wi' th' understandin' ut we wur to meet again th' neet afther. No sooner, however, did I foind myself alone, then aw dearted along th' road to cawr heawse loike one possessed, un when I oppenth' dur aw rushed up sturs, fastenin' th' dur afther me, us if aw thowt th' footpad wur ut my heels. Th' neet afther aw went to th' place wheere aw hed promised to meet my companion o' th' neet before, but, us yo couldn't expect ut aw should goo alone, yo needn't be surpris'd when aw tell yo ut aw took care to brin' th' village kunstable wi' me. Whether th' footpad thowt thur summot suspicious in me, aw cannot tell, but enny heaw he did not turn up, nayther then nor afther, so ut we coom to th' conclushun ut he hev depearted for what thoose poet chaps caw

'Fresh woods un pastures new.'

* A fact.—The Author.

TIC-DOLOREUX, TOOTHACHE, &C.—BUSHBY'S NEUROTIC

gives immediate and lasting relief, is also invaluable in weakness and general debility. 1/1 and 2/9 of Chemists.

NOTICE EXTENDED,

From January 22nd to February 17th, 1880.

The following advertisement was formerly for 21 days, but in consequence of so many HUNDREDS of inquiries made to R. BANKS by letter, post card, messenger, &c., asking him if he would favour them with a sitting for their Photographs at one-half the usual price, providing they send in their names during the advertisement of half-price, and PAY WHEN THEY COME to have their Photograph taken. The following is a copy of

THE REPLY—

"If not convenient for you to sit during the short time of this advertisement, you can send to me, by post or otherwise, 2/6, 3/9. or 5/3 according to the kind you require, and I will give you a receipt for it, and enter it in the books so that you can have a sitting for your Photographs at any time during the summer months of 1880."

All Orders per post must be accompanied with cash and stamped envelope for reply.

Carte-de-Visite and Cabinet Photographs by R. BANKS will be charged only ONE-HALF THE USUAL PRICE.

For example, those formerly charged 5/- per dozen will be 2/6, those charged 7/6 will be 3/9, and those charged 10/6 will be 5/3. Other prices charged at the same rate, that is to say, one-half the usual price.

Should any person be desirous of having another dozen from any of the Negatives previously taken at any of his Studies, they can be supplied at one-half the usual price during the term of this notice.

JUVENILES.—Where only a small amount of pocket money is allowed to meet these young people's wants, 500 dozen will be issued to boys and girls over seven and under twelve years of age at 2/- per dozen.

Should any Lady or Gentlemen have a Carte-de-Visite of themselves or any relative or friend, they can have it copied and One Dozen Cartes printed from it for 3/9.

R. BANKS wishes it to be clearly understood that all work done during this notice will be equally as well finished as that at the usual price.

**R. BANKS, PHOTOGRAPHER,
73A, MARKET STREET,**

CORNER OF NEW BROWN STREET;

1, NEW CROSS;

AND AT HIS RESIDENCE—

REMBRANDT HOUSE, ALEXANDRA PARK, MANCHESTER.

The above Prices quoted are meant as an advertising medium for 1880. See "Evening Mail" and "Evening News" every day.

WEST OF ENGLAND SOAP COMPANY,

47, OLDHAM ROAD, MANCHESTER.

WILLIAM BROWN, AGENT.

MANUFACTURER OF ALL KINDS OF

SIZING SOAPS AND FANCY SOAP.

ESTABLISHED 1862.

WILLIAM BROWN,

47, OLDHAM ROAD, MANCHESTER,

SOLE MAKER AND PATENTEE OF

BROWN'S PATENT BOILER COMPOUND, STANNATE OF SODA.

FOR PREVENTING THE INCRUSTATION IN STEAM BOILERS.—(REGISTERED.)

No Connection with any other firm.—AGENTS WANTED.

PRICE 10s. 6d.



Deafness! Deafness! Deafness!

"He that hath ears to hear, let him hear."—St. Matthew, c. xi, v. 15.

DENTON'S CELEBRATED REMEDIES FOR DEAFNESS, NOISES IN THE HEAD, GIDDINESS, AND DISCHARGE FROM THE EARS.

Mr. Denton begs to call particular attention to the following Extracts from Letters and Testimonials from some of the persons who have been cured:—

"70, Ashton New Road, November 2nd, 1871.
Dear Sir,—My conscience will not allow me to postpone any longer tendering to you my most sincere thanks for the wonderful cure you have worked upon me. Your invaluable Preparation has done wonders. In order that this well-merited commendation may be seen to be something more than mere flattery, I will just mention one or two instances illustrative of the improvement of the condition of my sense of hearing. Thanks to you, this sense is now delicate. . . . I would remind you that I have suffered from deafness all my life. By occupation I am a pupil teacher. The noise occasioned by ordinary school duties has been so great of late that I sent a boy the other day for a piece of wool to put in my ears, in order to diminish it. Last Sunday I attended church, as usual, and although the minister was an Irishman, and, of course, a little imperfect in pronunciation, I heard every word in the whole of his discourse. I am not able to express my gratitude to you, but I will say that I hope you will long be spared to go on in your Christian work of healing and relieving, by your intelligence and experience, the sufferings from this distressing affliction of your fellow-men.
"To Mr. Denton."
"Yours gratefully,
ARTHUR WARREN."

"Shaw near Oldham, January 25th, 1878.
Dear Sir,—After being seriously afflicted with Deafness for four or five years, I was induced through a friend to apply to you, and after the period of TWENTY DAYS my hearing was perfectly restored, and I can hear as well as ever I could in my life, for which I am thankful to you, and shall at any time be most happy to recommend any person so afflicted to your care.—Yours respectfully,
JOHN MOSS.

"Seedley Grove, Pendleton, July 9th, 1878.
"My dear Sir,—Having been troubled with Deafness for some years, I mentioned the fact to a friend, and upon his recommendation, I was induced to try your skill, and to my great astonishment and delight, at the first visit you gave substantial proof of your ability. Unsolicited, I am happy to acquaint you that I can hear with acuteness, and as well as ever I could in my life. The successful result of your thoroughly practical ability on myself prompts me to recommend you to all who are suffering from Deafness, and I shall only be too glad to give you the opportunity of referring any of your patients for my personal opinion.—Yours ever thankfully,
JOHN HOPWOOD.

One old gentleman in particular, who was 84 years of age and had been deaf 43 years, was perfectly cured in seven weeks, and he was so overcome with joy and gratitude that he begged of Mr. Denton to be allowed to put the cure in the local papers.
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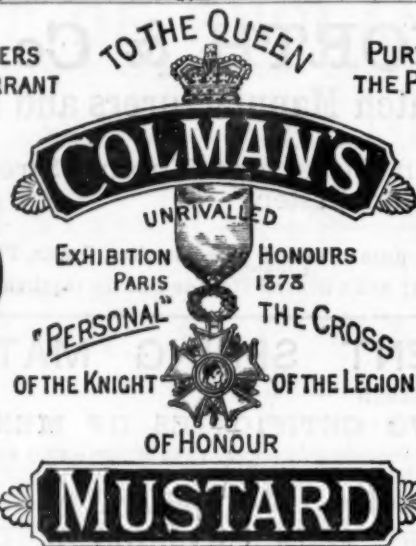
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